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Message Text

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41
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AF-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 RSR-01 /101 W
---------- 091037
R 171225 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY SANAA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2003

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 631

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, LE, US
SUBJECT: CHARGES OF US COMPLICITY IN ISRAELI RAID ON LEBANON

REF: STATE 68250

1. SINCE DEPPRIMIN AND FORMIN NU' MAN HAS JUST RETURNED FROM MONTH- LONG TRIP ABROAD AND WAS UNAVAILABLE, DCM RAISED MATTER OF ARAB BROADCAST AND ARTICLES CHARGING US COMPLICITY WITH FONMIN UNDERSECRETARY AL- KHODR APRIL 16 IN ACCORDANCE DEPT' S INSTRUCTIONS PARA THREE REFTEL. SINCE YAR CHARGE ZABARAH HAD NOT YET REPORTED ON SECRETARY' S DEMARCHE TO ARAB CHIEFS OF MISSION APRIL 12 (STATE 070173), DCM ALSO DREW EXTENSIVELY ON STATEMENT DELIVERED BY SECRETARY. DCM NOTED THAT, WHILE EMBASSY AWARE YEMENI MEDIA HAD NOT GIVEN ANY PLAY TO THESE FALSE AND SCURRILOUS CHARGES, YARG SHOULD BE AWARE THAT USG CATEGORICALLY DENIED THESE DELIBERATE LIES. FURTHERMORE USG TOOK A MOST SERIOUS VIEW OF FACT THAT CERTAIN ARAB GOVTS ALLOWED BROADCASTS WHICH NOT ONLY MADE SUCH TOTALLY FALSE CHARGES, BUT WHICH EVEN INCITED LISTENERS TO MURDER OR ATTACK AMERICAN CITIZENS AND PROPERTY.

2. AL- KHODR TOOK CAREFUL NOTE OF PRESENTATION AND, AT DCM' S REQUEST, PROMISED CONVEY TO FONMIN NU' MAN. AS IN PAST DEMARCHES INVOLVING ARAB- ISRAEL ISSUE, AL- KHODR REITERATED YEMEN' S STRONG DESIRE TO CONCENTRATE ON ITS OWN MYRIAD PROBLEMS AND NOT BE DRAWN INTO ARAB- ISRAEL CROSS- FIRE.
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3. DESPITE ITS SENSTATIONAL RESULTS, ISRAELI RAID HAD EVOKED LITTLE INTEREST HERE. FEW PEOPLE WE HAVE PROBED EVEN SEEM TO BE AWARE OF, MUCH LESS INTERESTED IN, FALSE CHARGES OF US INVOLVEMENT.
CRAWFORD

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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